facilities. The Government is giving financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 41.33 lakhs for the recurring and non-recurring expenditure for these units.

Corporations for employment of women

1736. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have directed the State Governments to set up corporations to promote employment of women;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the names of the States where such corporations have been set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As in the Statement attached herewith.

Statement

(b) The details of the new scheme of "Women's Development Corporations" of the Department of Women & Child Development are as under:

It is proposed that Women's Development Corporation would be set up in the States with the objecive of promoting employment generating activities amongst women. These Corporations would actively support and promote schemes for women's groups and women from the weaker sections of society. Necessary safeguards would however be provided to ensure that the advantages under this scheme are not appropriated by women, who are relatively better off, by way of benami transactions.

The Corporations would act as catalytic agents for generating economic activities among women. The functions of the Corporation would include:—

Identification of potential areas of employment;

Assistance for project formulation and raising required finance;

Arranging raw material for working women in multiple occupations;

To provide training consultance facilities; and

To provide infrastructure for marketing the products.

The Centre would provide funds to the States for setting up or running the Corporations through equity participaion upto 49 per cent of the equity.

The Corporation would also obtain credit under the differential rate of interest scheme or any other concessional scheme. A budget provision of Rs. 50.00 lakhs has since been made for implementing the scheme for the year 1987-88.

(c) The names of the States where such Corporations are inexistance are as under:—

(i) Punjab

(ii) Chandigarh

(iii) Tamil Nadu

(iv) Maharashtra

(v) Gujarat

(vi) Andhra Pradesh.

Train rakes lying unutilised

1737. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of train rakes remain idle for many hours at several places in the country;